Igor **Ferst**

Engineer and Entrepreneur

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Summary

I'm a product-minded, customer-obsessed engineer and entrepreneur. I have deep experience at early and growth stage companies, most notably as the co-founder and CTO of a startup building an analytics platform for vehicle telematics data (Mobikit, acquired by Bridgestone).

I've built products from scratch, led cross-functional teams, and built solutions for global enterprises. I thrive in roles that combine strategy, product thinking, and hands-on technical work, especially in high complexity/high ambiguity environments.

Work Experience

Epidemic Sound
Stockholm, Sweden

Sr. Data Engineer *Jan. 2025 - present*

First data engineer on an early-stage team building a new product that leverages Epidemic's unique IP in the social media space.

- Architected and shipped a data warehouse (DWH) for large-scale social network data to support product features and mission-critical internal analytics.
- Pre-sales (data) engineering and post-sales custom development for product's largest customer (ByteDance, owners of TikTok).
- Own the DWH roadmap, continuously adapting to rapidly changing stakeholder requirements and market conditions.
- Responsible for vendor negotiation and FinOps.

Data Science Team Lead *June 2024 - Jan. 2025*

Founding lead for a new team responsible for cultivating a data product culture within the data science domain.

- Conducted detailed discovery with stakeholders and users, defined team vision and roadmap, and got buy-in from leadership.
- Designed and shipped a technical toolkit for data product development that enabled traceability of ownership and automated error monitoring.

Sr. Analytics Engineer *Sept. 2023 - June 2024*

Engineer on Epidemic's central data team.

- Shipped data warehouse cost monitoring; stakeholder called it "a huge win" and critical during renegotiation with our cloud platform provider.
- Shipped integration with new CRM tool; stakeholder said "never before in my career has an integration actually been delivered on time with no hiccups".

Bridgestone Mobility Solutions
Stockholm, Sweden

Director of Engineering *Feb. 2021 - Aug. 2023*

My startup Mobikit (see below) was acquired and its product incorporated into Bridgestone's software portfolio as a fleet risk management product for insurance carriers. At Bridgestone, I reported to the head of our BU and continued to lead product development and solutions engineering for the product.

- Integrated Mobikit into Bridgestone's engineering and sales orgs.
- Hired and trained an offshore development team, including a tech lead and product manager.
- Managed personnel and cloud budgets.

Mobikit
Columbus (OH), USA

Co-founder/CTO *Jan. 2019 - Feb. 2021*

Technical co-founder of a startup building a data analytics platform for large-scale vehicle telematics data. I oversaw product development and customer implementation.

- Architected and led development of data analytics platform ingesting millions of vehicle trips per month.
- Supported Fortune 500 customers (Nationwide Insurance and Honda Americas) with pre-sales engineering, post-sales integration, and custom development.
- Grew and managed globally distributed team of developers and data scientists, from interns to seniors (8 people at its heighest).
- Contributed code across the entire stack, from data pipelines to application backend to UI.
- Raised funding, guided company to product-market fit, and exited successfully.

Root Insurance

SR. SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Worked at a growth-stage insuretech unicorn on multiple advanced projects, including using machine learning to enhance insurance rate accuracy.

Enlace Health
Columbus (OH), USA

LEAD SOFTWARE ENGINEER
Sept. 2014 - Feb. 2018

Early employee at a healthtech company building software to support innovative models of healthcare delivery. I led a cross-functional team that built a new product from scratch - a care management and revenue cycle management product for surgical centers.

InSample
San Francisco (CA), USA

SOFTWARE ENGINEER
Mar. 2014 - Sept. 2014

First employee at a healthcare analytics startup building a cloud-based tool for statistical de-biasing of clinical experiments. Together with the CTO, I interviewed prospective customers, and designed and built the product prototype.

Google
Mountain View (CA), USA

SOFTWARE ENGINEER
Feb. 2013 - Mar. 2014

I was part of the conversion tracking team building tools that Google's customers use to understand the effectiveness of their ad spend. I shipped a novel conversion tracking visualization for the AdWords suite of analytics tools as well as enhancements to the Google Analytics Markov-chain-based attribution model.

Palantir Technologies
Palo Alto (CA), USA

FORWARD DEPLOYED ENGINEER
Jan. 2011 - Jan. 2013

I worked on Palantir's data integration and quantitative research platform for capital markets.
- Embedded with Bridgewater Associates, the world's largest hedge fund.
- Product owner for the platform's visualization and reporting features.

Skills

Technical	Software engineering, data engineering, data science, machine learning, LLMs, analytics
Startups	Cross-functional leadership, product management, enterprise sales, solutions engineering

Education

Cornell University
Ithaca (NY), USA

M.S. IN COMPUTER SCIENCE
- PhD candidate in Applied Mathematics supported by a US National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship.
- Published original research in algorithms and mathematical optimization: `https://tinyurl.com/ycheu4us`

University of Waterloo
Waterloo (Ontario), Canada

M.MATH. IN COMBINATORICS & OPTIMIZATION

University of Chicago
Chicago (IL), USA

B.S. IN MATHEMATICS WITH HONORS